

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An insulation system (1) for pipes, containers, ventilation ducts and like installation parts which have an outer surface temperature which periodically is below the dew point of the ambient air, said insulation system comprising a thermally insulating layer ~~(5)~~ and (5), a layer of a vapour barrier (2) arranged on one side of the ~~thermal~~ thermally insulating layer, ~~and a layer of hygroscopic material (3)~~, said layers being circumferentially arranged in such a manner that the insulation system (1), starting from the outside, comprises said vapour barrier (2), ~~wherein~~

[[a]] said layer of hygroscopic material (3), and said thermally insulating layer (5), the layer of hygroscopic material (3) being arranged between the layer of the vapour barrier (2) and the thermally insulating layer (5), said hygroscopic material (3) being at least partially connected with the vapour barrier (2), and

the combination of the vapour barrier (2) and the hygroscopic material (3) being connected with the thermally insulating layer (5) in such a manner that the hygroscopic material (3) partially makes contact with the thermally insulating layer (5), and with said layer of hygroscopic material (3) being arranged so as not to make contact with the outer surface of the installation part that receives said insulation system.

2. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 1, in which the hygroscopic material (3) is connected with the thermally insulating layer (5) by means of a thermoplastic binder (4) which is arranged so that, after heating to a temperature above its melting point, it exposes the hygroscopic material (3) to the thermally insulating layer (5).

3. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 1, in which the hygroscopic material (3) is thermoplastic.

4. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 1, in which the vapour barrier (2) and the hygroscopic material (3) constitute a laminate (7).

5. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 2, in which the vapour barrier (2), the hygroscopic material (3) and the thermoplastic binder (4) constitute a laminate (7).

6. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 5, in which the thermoplastic binder (4) is arranged in a first layer next to the vapour barrier (2) and in a second layer next to the thermally insulating layer (5).

7. (Previously Presented) An insulation system as claimed in claim 4, in which the laminate (7) comprises perforations (8) which are adapted to make the hygroscopic material (3) communicate with the ambient air.

8. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 1, in which the hygroscopic material (5) is a non-continuous layer.

9. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 2, in which the thermoplastic binder (4) is arranged as a non-continuous layer.

10. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 1, in which the thermally insulating layer (5) comprises an additional hygroscopic material (14; 14').

11. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 10, in which the thermally insulating layer (5) and the additional hygroscopic material (14; 14') constitute a flexible pipe shell, a pleated mat or a laminated mat.

12. (Original) An insulation system as claimed in claim 1, in which the hygroscopic material (3) forms a reinforcement of the vapour barrier (2).

13. (Previously Presented) An insulation system as claimed in claim 4, in which the laminate (4) has such a width as to form flaps (11; 11a; 11b) which can be made to enclose pipes, containers, ventilation ducts and like installation parts.

14. (Previously Presented) An insulation system as claimed in claim 1, in which the vapour barrier (2) has moisture adaptive properties.

15. (Previously Presented) An insulation system as claimed in claim 5, in which the laminate (7) comprises perforations (8) which are adapted to make the hygroscopic material (3) communicate with the ambient air.

16. (Previously Presented) An insulation system as claimed in claim 5, in which the laminate (4) has such a width as to form flaps (11; 11a; 11b) which can be made to enclose pipes, containers, ventilation ducts and like installation parts.

17. (Previously Presented) An insulation system as claimed in claim 4, in which the vapour barrier (2) has moisture adaptive properties.

18. (Previously Presented) An insulation system as claimed in claim 5, in which the vapour barrier (2) has moisture adaptive properties.